

# FATHER PAT'S SERMON NOTES

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

### Spiritual Blindness

When the Catholic author G.K. Chesterton was asked the question: "What's wrong with this world?" He replied, "I am." I think his point was that to the degree that I am selfish, indifferent, uncaring, greedy, dishonest, prejudice, racist, sexist, slanderous, violent, abusive, demeaning of others, self-centered, etc., to that degree – I AM what's wrong with this world. But how many would have answered the question differently? What's wrong with this world? Donald Trump! Vladimir Putin! Obamacare! Republicans! Democrats! The Right Wing! The Liberals!

In today's second reading, Saint Paul makes a striking observation to the Christians in Ephesus: "**Brothers and Sisters, 'You were once darkness'...**" In other words, he tells them that before they were redeemed by Christ, they weren't just "in the dark," no, they were the darkness (Eph. 5:8)! The subtle distinction is striking and should not be overlooked. It's devastating enough to be told that you have a disease like cancer, but it's altogether different – and far worse – to be told that you ARE the cancer that is poisoning the relationship, the family, the ministry, the company, or society corrupting everything in its path! Wow! Could that be me? Yes, it could. But only by taking an honest look inside will you know.

Each year that we read the story of the man born blind from John's Gospel, our focus immediately goes to the outrageous and ridiculously arrogant behavior of the Pharisees who seem to be the only ones in the story who not only can't celebrate the miraculous restoration of a man's sight but vehemently oppose and deny it. They show no empathy or compassion and look at Jesus with utter contempt. We ask ourselves: What is their problem! But this is precisely the problem. We easily notice the faults of others and conveniently overlook our own. Among other things, spiritual blindness is the inability to see the Truth...about ourselves.

People who are familiar with the late author, M. Scott Peck, know that his most famous book was called: *The Road Less Traveled*. However, he wrote another book years later called: *People of the Lie* which addresses the darker topic of human evil. It is no coincidence that Jesus nicknamed the devil "The Father of Lies." So, here's a question you can ask yourself this Lent: "Who's your Daddy?" Which Father do you claim? The One who art in heaven or the other guy! Don't settle for the lies, live in the truth so that you can be what's right with this world!

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See Fr. Pat's Sermon Notes and listen to the podcast at <http://saintaugustine-dc.org/category/sermon-notes/>

REMEMBER ST. AUGUSTINE PARISH IN YOUR WILL & BEQUESTS  
SEE WEB PAGE FOR FATHER PAT'S SERMON NOTES AND LISTEN TO FATHER PAT'S SERMON PODCAST



The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

Sunday, March 26, 2017

### Scripture Readings

4th Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Eph 5:8-14

Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17,34-38

5th Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12-14

Rom 8:8-11

Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



### 8:15 am Daily Mass Intentions

Mon	Mar	27	Carlos Sosa	- Deceased
Tues	Mar	28	Evelyn Norris	- Living
Wed	Mar	29	Bernice Williams	- Living
Thurs	Mar	30	Evelyn Morgan	- Living
Fri	Mar	31	Gemma Rose Guerra	- Deceased

Attendance

982



### BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held every Wednesday at 7:00pm in the School Cafeteria.



### THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

"The Lord never tires of forgiving you"  
-Pope Francis

Experience the life-changing power of confession this Lent. Confession in the church every Wednesday from 6:30pm –8:00pm during Lent



SAINT AUGUSTINE SCHOOL COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN # 20000 ♦  
ST AUGUSTINE SCHOOL UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN #9670



**Fourth Sunday Of Lent**

**This Sunday's Second Collection is for our Poor of the Parish.  
Next Sunday's Second Collection is for our Parish School. Thank you for your continued support.**

**St. Augustine School** *Love to Learn; Learn to Love*

SR. GLORIA AGUMAGU, HHCJ PRINCIPAL

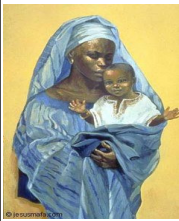
INFORMATION: 202-667-2608

## Catholic Education Corner



Saint Augustine School is now registering for the 2017-2018 school year for grades Pre-K3, Pre-K4 through Eighth. For an application or more information, please contact Mr. Wilkins,

Direction of Admissions at 202-667-2608 or email: [admissions@saintaugustine-dc.org](mailto:admissions@saintaugustine-dc.org).



**SAVE THE DATE— April 22, 2017**

**SODALITY SPRING LUNCHEON  
Celebrating 125 Years**

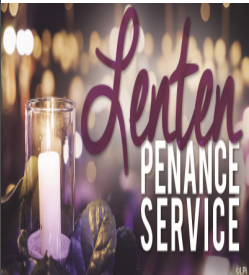
The Sodality of Saint Augustine will celebrate 125 years of service with a Spring Luncheon on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at the Washington Navy Yard from 12:00pm—3:00pm. The theme is "A Legacy of Faith - Living a Marian Way of Life". The guest speaker is Sister Jamie Phelps, OP, PhD. Tickets are \$50.00 per person. Please see Cynthia Morris for tickets.



**Ushers  
Needed**

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING A MINISTRY?**

Are you looking for another way to serve God? Do you like helping others? Well, the Saint Augustine Ministers of Hospitality is the ministry for you. Male and female Ushers are needed in every age group: teens, young adults, adults or seniors. See **Robert Joy** or any Usher before or after Mass for more information on how you can join one of the oldest ministries in the Church.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
Wednesday, April 12, 2017  
7:00 PM

**Lenten Reconciliation Service  
with Confession  
in the Church**

## Please Pray for Our Sick & Homebound

Gwendolyn Adams  
John Adams, Sr.  
Beatrice Alexander  
Francis Arnold  
Ronald Ausbrooks  
William Barksdale  
Althea Black  
Frances Brooks  
Norma Brown  
Williams Burgan  
Andrew Burton  
Angela Callighan  
Elizabeth Carter  
Phillip Cephas  
Ollie Mae Clark  
Ernestine Coghill Howard  
Pauline Dines  
Theola Douglas  
Susan Epps  
Barbara Ferguson  
Julie Fish  
Toni Fisher  
Carolyn Fouch  
Richard B. Fowler  
Daniel Galloway  
Inez Gaskins  
Charles Gathers  
James Griffiths  
Rev Charles Green  
Valencia Green  
Robert Greenfield  
Frances Gulston

Louise Harrison  
Grace Hansberry  
Brian Harvey  
John Harris  
Patricia Herndon  
Emily Hill  
Jeanne Hinckley  
Deborah Jackson  
Charles Jackson  
Marlene Jackson  
Malcom Jamison  
Eleanor Johnson  
Paul Joy  
Sedonia Labee  
Keats Labule  
Raymond Lane  
Louisa Lee  
Mary Leonard  
Bernadette Mahoney  
Lita Majors  
Catherine Mason  
Florence Matthews  
Floyd McCorry  
James McNamara  
Rick Middleton  
Sylvia Monroe  
Arnetia Montague  
Alpha Nacnas  
Evelyn Norris  
Julius Oben  
Colelle Ogbey  
Eileen Ogu

Harriet Parker  
Marguerite Parker  
Audrey Plaskett  
Theresa Purcell  
Samiya Rajah  
Ze'La Rajah  
Ashley Redhead, Jr.  
Royal Robinson  
Lisa Rivera  
Gertina Simms  
Alise Simmons  
George Simmons  
Mary Smith  
Zedekiah Smith  
Donnie Stewart  
Don Strong  
Willis Thomas  
Juanita Towns  
Selma Twitty  
Hayden Vaughn  
Lillian Vaughn  
Terry Vaughn  
Shirley Ward  
Betty Washington  
Elliot Weaver  
Cynthia Wilkins  
Bernice Williams  
Teresa Wilkinson  
Lozzie York



**Pray for Our Dead**



### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Pastoral Parish Council Meetings are held every 3rd Saturday of the month at 9:00 am in the Gingras Center. Meetings are open to all parishioners.**



**PARK FREE SUNDAY  
FROM 9am — 4pm  
REEVES CENTER U  
STREET AT 14TH ST NW  
*Enter on U Street***

### Our Parish Bookstore and Gift Shop

Opens before and after weekend Masses. Use Visa or MasterCard (\$10 min), check (\$5min), or cash to buy: Bibles - Missals - Rosaries - Books on the Pope, Saints, Parish History, Faith, Discernment, Marriage, Children's Books, Father Pat's Homilies and Choir CDs

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC, RECEIVING CONFIRMATION? SPONSORING INQUIRERS?  
RCIA MEETS TUESDAYS AT 6:45 – 8:45PM IN THE GINGRAS CENTER - SABRINA WILLIAMS AT 202-294-6990.**

▼ SEE GINGRAS CENTER BULLETIN BOARD FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF AVAILABLE EMPLOYMENT, YOUTH AND ADULT OPPORTUNITIES. ▼